

## The Tithe Is The Lord's

(Genesis 14:18-20; Leviticus 27:30)

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The Tithe is the Lords Gen 14:18-20 Lev 27:30  
My pastor used to say all the time that those who don't believe in tithing never pastored a church. I now know what he means. I have not always been a tither. It was not until shortly after I was married that my view point was changed for me. No clin not talking about my wife. Although she did insist on it, it was the exhortations and challenges that rang out from my pastor that really began to open my heart but finally it was the word of God that brought the conviction of H.G. in the area of tithing. Yet there are others that try to discourage the practice as being OT Law keeping →

I. The Premiere of Tithing - Many associate tithing w/ OT Law but in fact Tithing pre-dates the Law of Moses! Gen 14:18-20. Abrahm on the way back from defeating the armies that kidnapped Lot gave a 10<sup>th</sup> of the spoil to Melchizedek. Melch is a mysterious priest not found in lineage mentioned in Bible. Heb 7 Equates Melch. as a type of Christ Having a priesthood w/o beginning or ending. Some scholars believe is early name for Jerusalem.

Most High God! Abrahm not the only follower of God when called out of Ur of Chaldeze. True religion passed down from Adam. This tree religion foremost But in the Premiere of Tithing we find Abrahm giving tithes to God. I heard a preacher say about Abrahm



I. The Priorities of Tithing - Now  
remembers that according to Ps 24:1. But God  
holds special claim to the 10<sup>th</sup> the tithe  
Le 27:30 also Ex 23:19 This tithe is to  
be the first fruits! Ex 13 God lays special  
claim to the first born son. God is showing us  
the priority of our lives by his desire for  
the first fruit tenth. It belongs to Him  
specifically. He lays special claim to  
it. So many times we place everything else in  
the world in front of Him and give him what's left.  
The O.T. the leftover were left in field for the  
poor and the beggars. God's not a beggar.  
King! He has priority over everything else. Let's

III. The Proclamation of Tithing  
God brought the proclamation of a prophet  
when the children of Israel refused to tithe  
and reveals how God views the withholding  
of the tithe. Malachi 3:8-11. God views it as  
stealing & robbing. As if they had reached  
into the pocket of God and stolen from Him  
what belonged to Him. This robbery had  
a penalty. A curse. The devours destroyed  
the other 90%. A lot of financial distress  
have their origins in a missing tithe.  
But also there is a promise in this message.  
Vs 10 Be cheerful, do what I have commanded  
you to do and there will be a blessing from <sup>Heaven</sup> <sup>Challenges</sup>  
IV. The Promise of Tithing - This

- 1) OT law keeping and the NT believer is not obligated to tithe.

What's the truth? I believe that the Word of God is clear that giving 1/10 of our gross income is the duty of every NT believer. And I believe the following passages bare that out.

- 2) This true religion was perverted by others into pagan worship of idols, but even there the principals of giving and owing God are clearly seen.
- 3) ...about Abram who's name was changed to Abraham, that after Abram started tithing, God gave him the ham. But this practice was passed down to Abraham's grandson Jacob who promised God in Genesis 28:22 And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.
- 4) Psalms 24:1 The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.
- 5) Leviticus 27:30 And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S: it is holy unto the LORD.
- 6) Exodus 23:19 The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God...
- 7) Numbers 18 clearly shows that this tenth of all Israel was to support the lives of the priests and their ministry and maintenance of the Tabernacle. It was a necessity!





Promise is echoed in the new Testament by the Lord Jesus in Luke 6:38. When the windows of heaven are opened and the blessings of God are poured out He promises that the blessing received will not be like the ruffels potato chip bag, 25 chips and half a bag of air. Not pressed down heap ing over! God says try my promise, I did, I drew a line in the sand, clinging to be obedient to God. God has blessed and met spiritual and financial needs time & again. The last of verse. The amount you receive of the blessings of God directly proportional to amount given.

V. The Principle of Tithing - But the question of Tithing is the dispute that it is only an O.T. Law and we have been freed from the Law. But notice how Jesus handled this subject of Giving. Matt 23:23. The scribes and pharisees very exacting. Tithed even the herbs of the garden. Jesus could have said God really doesn't want you to be so exacting with the tithe, but he is more concerned w/ the weightier matters: judgment, mercy, faith. No this ye ought to have done. Remember the tithe transcends the law therefore when Jesus was given authority to revoke or

renew or even minimise the Tithe He did not do so. VI. The Practice of Tithing - Just as church attendance, prayer, bible reading

sacrificing are to be part of the exercise of our christian life so should tithing. 1 Cor 16:2 You see each week God has prospered you 100%. Within that 100% on top there is 10%, that God requires you to give back to Him. He has entrusted it to you for the investment into His Kingdom. Your practices should be to return it to Him through your local Church. Dr RV Gurnater, Minneapolis.

2 Cor 8:1-5 holds the Key to the practice of giving. They gave themselves to God. The reason many nevertheless is that they have not given themselves to God. It's your III. The Picture of Tithing - Mk 12:41-44. Note that Jesus was watching. He saw all these that came up to the coffee to give. I make it a point not to know what any person gives at this church. But the Lord knows, the Lord sees. The practice was for the rich in Jesus day to blow gr8 trumpet and use loud cans for all to see how much they gave. Jesus sees the proportion that this widow gave, and found it greater than any other. Your tithe may not seem much but Christ sees your want, your need and will supply it. For all of us here God has been faithful when we were in need. He will do less no IV. Closing - I recently heard of a study a sociologist did concerning wealth among the protestant conservatives. She was trying



- 1) 1 Corinthians 16:2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him...
- 2) Clearwater: Every case of giving that received special mention in the NT was cited because it went beyond the tithe. The tithe then we may infer did not deserve honorable mention because it was ones plain and known duty.
- 3) She was trying to give a reason why so many protestant conservative Christians were not as wealthy as their social counter parts. Her conclusions were that protestant conservative Christians actually believe the Bible when it says Psalms 24:1 *The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.* They believe the words of Jesus *"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:"* I wonder if she did the study on you would she come to the same conclusion. The God has a pre-eminent position in your finances. That you put your money where our mouth is.